

Use the following thoughts and questions to have one spiritual conversation. You can pick and choose, use them all or just allow the statement to be your guide. The emphasis shouldn't be about having all the answers, but simply having a conversation.

Scripture

Acts 27:13-44; 28:11-16

1. Opening Statement

Begin your conversation by asking about this main point:

Despite how uncertain or unsure the future may seem, God calls us to continue His mission.

This main point is the biblical truth the student's study was built around. Each week there will be one statement that ties the whole study together. These would be great statements to remember together. The hope is that thoughts and ideas will stem from these statements. You can also begin by sharing a thought of your own that you learned during your study of the same session. Ask what thoughts were surprising as the study was taught.

2. Thought From the Study

But here's the difference: Paul sought to spread the gospel while Jonah fled the gospel. When the storm came, Paul was already in a posture of trusting in Christ and his faithful obedience carried him through the storm. Jonah, on the other hand, was in a posture of rebellion and had to learn to trust God in the storm. That's what storms do. They can drive us to cling to Christ, like Paul, or they can drive us to despair, like Jonah. Unlike the ministry-fleeing prophet, Paul remained on the ship and trusted that God would protect him, and everyone else on board. God promised it! The prisoner, Paul, encouraged the battle-hardened Roman soldier and salty ship's crew.

► **When are you like Jonah? When do you think you respond more like Paul?**

3. Quote for Discussion

Discuss this quote together. How does this change your understanding of a relationship with Jesus?

God has never said that you will not go through the valley of the shadow of death, but He has said that He will go with you. —R. C. Sproul

4. Conversation Questions

Use these questions to begin thinking through and applying the lessons to your family life:

1. What promises of God does our family more easily believe? Which ones are more difficult for our family to trust?
2. What are some other things our family trusts in rather than God and His promises?
3. When have we seen God's faithfulness in the life of our family?
4. Which parts of our family's life or things might be keeping us from fully surrendering to God?